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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **THE JOHN HOPKINS UNIVERSITY** [US/US]; 3400 N. Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21218 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **WANG, Tian-LI** [US/US]; 5208 Springlake Way, Baltimore, MD 21212 (US). **DIAZ, Luis** [US/US]; 5943 Meadow Rose, Eldridge, MD 21075 (US). **LENGAUER, Christoph** [AT/US]; 9212 Adalee Court, Columbia, MD 21045 (US). **VELCULESCU, Victor** [US/US]; 14064 Big Branch

Drive, Dayton, MD 21036 (US). **KINZLER, Kenneth, W.** [US/US]; 1403 Halkirk Way, Bel Air, MD 21015 (US). **VOGELSTEIN, Bert** [US/US]; 3700 Breton Way, Baltimore, MD 21208 (US).

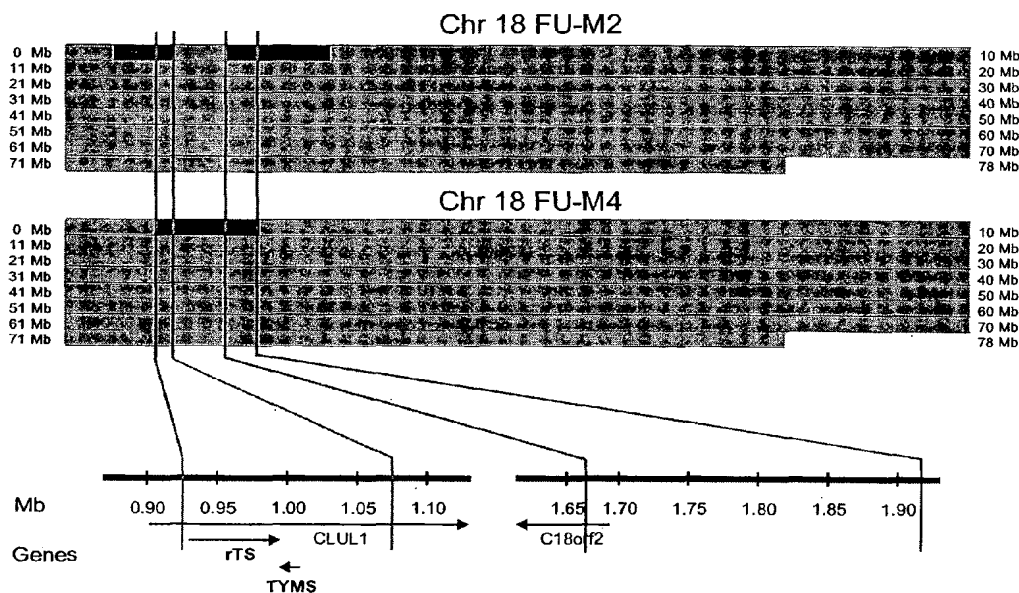
(74) Agent: **KAGAN, Sarah, A.**; Banner & Witcoff, Ltd., 11th floor, 1001 G Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001-4597 (US).

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(54) Title: THYMIDYLATE SYNTHASE GENE AND METASTASIS



(57) Abstract: Thymidylate synthase (TYMS) gene amplification was observed in 23% of 31 5-FU resistant liver metastases, while no amplification was observed in metastases of patients that had not been treated with 5-FU. Patients with metastases containing TYMS amplification had a substantially shorter median survival (329 days) than those without amplification (1021 days, $p < 0.01$). Genetic amplification of TYMS has important implications for the management of colorectal cancer patients with recurrent disease.

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